

SOZHIZNE #10

december

2006

Aethere # Pulvis et umbra sumus

Protoplazma puts out Pelvis et umbra sumus, superb dark ambient. The sound stays in a constant shade and follows this one specific mood throughout the duration of the album. It's full of echos, whispers, mechanical slow beats, spoken words and other various additional sounds; all merging into each others to pump up the atmosphere. The gloom lies behind the soundscapes of Aethere, not comforting, not frightening but somewhere in between, neutral somehow, letting your own feelings waver towards what suits it best. Driven by the music through different and multiple places and times, as a vampire, eternal, I watch the hands of this man mold my imagination.

*Netlabel # Protoplazma.com
Artist # Bladesoflight.org*

Jean nine # Black folders & voodoo archives

Here comes another from release Kyoto republic, the second from Jean Nine which have granted us, a few months ago, a beautiful trip-hop/jazz first album. This one, although equal in excellence, messes up with its predecessor's calm to storm into groovy beats only allowing calmness into rare tiny spaces. Black folders and voodoo archives is mostly idm with bursts of drum'n'bass here and there, there is also some sound collage that brings some familiar tunes to the front. We end up with a bunch of energetic tracks that keeps your toes, below the layers of socks and blankets, dancing to the music. Fortunatly netreleases do not run out of stock. Enjoy.

Netlabel # Kyoto.scene.org

Feu follet # Souvenir d'ermitage

Feu follet puts out yet another of its children, this one is named Souvenir d'ermitage and is very short, 16 minutes, 3 tracks. This physical disadvantage (the shortness) doesn't seem to stop it from exposing the richness of the sounds that composes its heart. Although it is ambient music, its melodies remind of darkwave artists like Diary of dreams played at a slower pace and with lot of hopes to dilute the despair. The principal track is Souvenir d'ermitage (10 minutes), the two others are basically an intro and outro to adorn things a bit more. An interesting opus.

*Netlabel # Silence-is-not-empty.com
Artist # Aalfang.de/feufollet*

Glaukom synod # Uczulony

Uczulony is 40 minutes of industrial/noise music glitching and jumping in confusion. More ordered samples, rare however, buffer against the aggression of sounds just to better drown you into it again. The feel is purely industrial, with mechanical distorted cries and rhythms. It's a mix of all you heard in industrial music; Iszoloscope, Noisex, Front 242 and a handful of others. The music is based on ebm (some passages reminded of Apoptygma berzerk) and metal guitars and drums with layers of distortion laid above it. The tracks, 18 in all, are short and come as bursts one after the other. Give it a try, it will bring up a special feeling to the metalheads.

Artist # Glaukomsynod.site.voila.fr

Ka-baalim & Cupid # Western angels

Western angels is a collaboration work between Ka-baalim and Cupid. In addition to the 3 tracks of the ep, there are 3 remixes of the track Western angels by Max Brody, Garland Villanova and Rapoon. There is also an accompanying video. The whole sounds a lot like the abstract ambient parts post rock Godspeed you black emperor uses in their songs. It is like field recordings of a magically empowered fantasy land, creating a lot of mystery knowing the titles of the songs refer to angel related things and places. The remixes are harsher and darker plus the appearance of more concrete instruments and musicality. Excellent release.

Netlabel # Darkwinter.com

V/A # I, mute hummings

I, mute hummings has been released by the recently opened german label Ex ovo (january 2006), second release and first compilation they put out. It features 9 different artists in as many tracks over 1 hour and 16 minutes; the concept revolves around the diverse interpretations of ambient music the participants propose. The soundscapes are very clean and calm, gentle noises caress your eardrums, the music turns darker and ominous as time passes, as drones appear lightly at first then more and more clearly, only to return to a little more serene atmosphere in later tracks. A beautiful collection of drones.

Label # Exovo.org

Diatribes # Logique du désordre

Diatribes is the improvisational free jazz band of Laurent Peter aka D'incise, Cyril Bondi and Gaël Riondel. After a number of netreleases here comes their first cd release on the swiss label Altrisuoni (the band is swiss too). The thing have been recorded at a live performance in Geneve. The sound is very minimalistic and contains a lot of empty spaces, desert even at some places; traditional rhythms or melodies are very rare so it remains mostly abstract due to its strong influences from ambient and noise music. Certain portions sound like pieces of soundtracks that had their context changed and lead to different interpretations.

Label # Altrisuoni.com

Artist # Diatribes.dincise.net

V/A # Sgt. pepper's lonely hearts dub band

Netlabel Qunabu releases a small but interesting dub compilation, 5 tracks by 5 different artists, Xceed, Echo tm, Boskey, Itoa and Ars deco, all from poland where the label is based. The 5 tracks go on their steady dub walk achieving sweet melodies to adorn the never changing rhythm. They are rich of sonorities from the reverberations and percussion glitches of Subdued thoughts to the blobs of Arboretum. It sounds like a slowed down ritual african dance, men walking round the earth as in a dream. This is barely the second (good) release by Qunabu which draws a promising path in the netlabel scene.

Netlabel # Netlabel.qunabu.com

Info

*Sothzine is a monthly underground music webzine and PDF mag.
<http://sothzine.atspace.com/>*

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sothzine@yahoo.com with a link to your music.
Or send your CDs to the following address:*

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